

Message Text

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14
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /059 W
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R 151522Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 473

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OTTAWA 2879

POUCHED INFO ALL CANADIAN POSTS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, CA
SUBJ: TORIES NOMINATE CANDIDATE FOR OTTAWA-CARLETON BY-ELECTION
OCTOBER 18

REF: OTTAWA 2688

1. JULY 14, PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVES (PCS) NOMINATED
BUSINESSWOMAN JEAN PIGOTT AS PC CANDIDATE IN OCTOBER 18 OTTAWA-
CARLETON BY-ELECTION. PIGOTT NOMINATION FILLS CANDIDATE SLATE
OF MAJOR PARTIES SINCE LIBERALS AND NDP COMPLETED NOMINATIONS
PREVIOUSLY (REFTEL).

2. PIGOTT, 32-YEAR OLD SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSWOMAN AND
ACTIVE CIVIC LEADER, HAS PRESENT EDGE OVER HER LIBERAL AND NDP
OPPONENTS. CONSTITUENCY DISCONTENT WITH THE LIBERALS WILL HURT
LIBERAL CANDIDATE HENRI ROCQUE WHO IS RELATIVE UNKNOWN IN ANY
CASE (REFTEL). NDP CANDIDATE, A 30-YEAR OLD LEFTWING SOCIALIST,
IS GIVEN LITTLE CHANCE OF WINNING. TO EXTEND THAT HE IMPROVES
ON 7 PERCENT NDP VOTE IN 1974 ELECTION, THE ADDITIONAL
VOTE SHOULD BE LARGELY AT EXPENSE OF LIBERALS.

3. ELECTION HAS UNUSUAL IMPORTANCE SINCE IT WILL BE AN INDICA-
TOR OF JUST HOW LOW LIBERAL FORTUNES HAVE SUNK (REFTEL).

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4. COMMENT: BEING A HEAVILY ANGLOPHONE CIVIL SERVICE
CONSTITUENCY WHICH HAS BEEN SAFE LIBERAL SEAT FOR OVER

90 YEARS, PC VICTORY EXPECTED TO CONFIRM STRENGTH OF
ANGLOPHONE BACKLASH AND RELATED CIVIL SERVICE DISCONTENT
WITH LIBERAL GOVERNMENT.
ENDERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NOMINATION, POLITICAL PARTIES, ELECTION CANDIDATES, BYELECTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976OTTAWA02879
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760274-0242
From: OTTAWA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760755/aaaabwhy.tel
Line Count: 65
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 OTTAWA 2688
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 APR 2004 by greeneet>; APPROVED <03 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TORIES NOMINATE CANDIDATE FOR OTTAWA-CARLETON BY-ELECTION OCTOBER 18
TAGS: PINT, CA, PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVES, PCS, (PIGOTT, JEAN), (ROCQUE, HENRI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006